(d) Yes, Sir. Around 10,000 tons of FCV Tobacco is yet to be exported to Russia.

(e) Minimum Export Prices' of grades meant for export to Russia were as follows:

Grade 4	Rs. 58.00
LBY/LG	Rs. 56.00
LBY 2	Rs. 48.50

(f) Delay is due to non-opening of Letter of Credits by the Russian importing organization

(g) No, Sir.

(h) Does not arise.

Export of Tuna Fish

718. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that MPEDA has explored the possibility of increasing tuna fish exports from the coastal areas of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) what are the annual exports of tuna, Volume-wise and in terms of foreign exchange in 1991-92 and 1992-93 ; and

(c) the main ports through which tuna fish is exported ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) There is limited scope for export of coastal tuna due to high content of red meat in it. Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) encourages off shore (deep sea) tuna fishing. At present two fishing companies from Andhra Pradesh have acquired tuna long liners from their foreign collaborators under 100 per cent ECJ scheme for tuna fishing in Indian EEZ for exports.

(b) The information is as under :

	Exports of tuna	
	1991-92	1992-93 (provisional)
Quantity (Tonnes)	212	507
Value (Rs. Lakh)	53.79	142.71

(Source: MPEDA)

(c) Main ports through which tuna fish is exported are Madras (Tamil Nadu), Kandla (Gujarat) and Panaji (Goa).

Change in Objectives of ITPO

719. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a change in the original objectives of India Trade Promotion Organisation;

(b) whether Government have issued directions to ITPO to commercialise the institution;

(c) what are the reasons for reducing the importance of trade promotion